

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Although the references of record show some similar features of applicant's claimed device, the prior art fails to teach or make obvious the claimed invention, wherein the claims are drawn to a door opener comprising a housing with an inner wall, a pivot latch, a changeover switch, an armature, an intumescent material, having an expansion temperature, position on the inner wall of the housing proximate to the armature, and a plurality of free spaced disposed between the inner wall and the pivot latch, the inner wall and the changeover switch, and the inner wall and the armature, wherein the intumescent material volumetrically expands into the free space between the inner wall and the armature and permanently embeds the armature in a locking position when the expansion temperature has been reached.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALYSON M. MERLINO whose telephone number is (571)272-2219. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Beach can be reached on (571) 272-6988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AM
October 21, 2011

/Carlos Lugo/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3674